

PARISH CLERGY:

PARISH PRIEST
Fr. Ramesh Echu

PARISH DEACON
Rev. Peter Crosby

PARISH REPS:

SAFEGUARDING:
Mr Gerry Wintrip
sg.smota.aldridge@rcaob.org.uk

HEALTH & SAFETY:
Mr Phil Probert
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PARISH CATECHIST:
Mrs Philomena Mullins
cat.smota.aldridge@rcaob.org.uk

ST. MARY OF THE ANGELS

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Aldridge
Walsall
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Tel:01922 452316

Parish Website:

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Parish Email:

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Fr. Ramesh's Email:

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Rev. Peter Crosby

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This Parish is part
of the Archdiocese
of Birmingham.

Registered Charity
Nº:234216

FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT



DATE
Sunday 30th November
2025

SUNDAY
1st Sunday of Advent- Year A

DIVINE OFFICE
Advent week 1

Live-stream: All of our services are now Live-streamed.

Saturday 29th November <i>Feria in Ordinary Time</i> (Vigil Mass for Sunday)	9:30am 10:00-10:30am 6:00pm	Edmond Almeida <small>RIP^(YA)</small> <i>Confessions & Benediction</i> Ken Vranck <small>RIP^(RV)</small>
Sunday 30th November 1st Sunday of Advent	8:55am 9:30am	<i>Sunday Rosary Devotion Group</i> People of the Parish
Monday 1st December <i>St Edmund Campion</i> <small>Priest, Martyr</small> ^{Feast}		<u>No Services Today</u>
Tuesday 2 nd December <i>Advent Feria</i>	9:15am	Roger Monckton <small>RIP</small> ^(GM)
Wednesday 3 rd December <i>St Francis Xavier</i> <small>Priest</small> ^{Memorial}	9:15am 6:00pm	Sr. Anne Marie Eden <small>RIP</small> ^(Srs) <i>Rosary Devotion Group in Meeting Room (UFN)</i>
Thursday 4 th December <i>Advent Feria</i>	6:30pm 7:00pm	<i>Rosary for the Unborn</i> Private Intention
Friday 5 th December <i>St Birinus</i> <small>Bishop</small> ^{Feast}	9:15am	Sick in the Parish
Saturday 6 th December <i>St Nicholas</i> <small>Bishop</small> ^{Memorial} (Vigil Mass for Sunday)	9:30am 10:00-10:30am 6:00pm	People of the Parish <i>Confessions & Benediction</i> Int. of John Reeves ^(SJ)
Sunday 7 th December Second Sunday of Advent	8:55am 9:30am	<i>Sunday Rosary Devotion Group</i> Michael Sparkes <small>RIP</small> (Choir)

The Holy Communion and Confirmation Classes for Children not at Catholic Schools:

Confirmation classes started on **16th November 2025** and Holy Communion Classes **23rd November** straight after Sunday Mass. For further details, please contact our Parish Catechist **Mrs Philomena Mullins** cat.smota.aldridge@rcaob.org.uk

Pope Leo

Faith “in one Lord Jesus Christ, the Only Begotten Son of God, born of the Father before all ages... consubstantial with the Father” (Nicene Creed) is a profound bond already uniting all Christians. Under the guidance of the Holy Spirit, in mutual love and dialogue, we are all invited to overcome the scandal of divisions and nurture the desire for unity for which the Lord Jesus prayed and gave His life.

Rosary for the Unborn

This Thursday 4th December at 6.30pm we pray the Holy Rosary before the Blessed Sacrament for the protection of all babies in the womb and for their families. This month's intention is: **For those facing a crisis pregnancy at this time.**

The CaFOD Prayer

1st Sunday of Advent

CAFOD

Lord Jesus as we await your coming, open our hearts and minds to a child-like trust that one day our world will be freed from the injustice of poverty. Move us to do everything in our power to work for its coming.

Bishop Timothy's Pastoral Visitation

Weekend of 6th & 7th December. Bishop Timothy Menezes will be making a Pastoral visit to SMA. After Mass on Saturday there will be a reception for Bishop Timothy (a buffet will be served), if you wish to attend this, **please add your name to the sign up sheet in the porch;** we can comfortably accommodate up to 50 people.

Whetstone over 50's

The next meeting of the over 50's group is Monday 8th December at 1pm. This is our Christmas party so don't forget your contribution for the table and your Secret Santa to the value of £5.



Advent Family Fun Afternoon

This **Sunday 30th Nov 2pm-5pm** in the Parish Hall. For more information speak to **Jill P** or **Catherine C.**
final Notice



Recently Deceased

Of your charity, please pray for the repose of the soul of **Paul Wright** upon whose soul, Sweet Jesus have mercy.

Social Events

Do you have any suggestions for Social Events that could be held at St Mary of the Angels? If you do can you please write them down on the sheet at the back of Church by Wednesday 10th December. Your suggestions would be most welcome. Many thanks

Pope's Prayer Intention

The Pope's prayer intention for November is - For the Prevention of Suicide – Let us pray that those who are tempted to commit suicide may find the support, care and love they need in their community, and be open to the beauty of life.

Christmas Nativity



Join us in church for our Christmas Carols and Nativity on Sunday 14th December at 5pm.

All your favourite carols, short readings and Nativity scenes created by children of the parish.

Please join us afterwards in the Meeting Room to share a glass of Christmas cheer and a festive pie!!

Sick in the Parish

Please pray for the sick in the parish, remembering especially:

Andrew Mather, Ann Watson, Anne Mitchell, Maureen Patton, Maureen Carr, Shaun Smith, Kathleen 'Frankie' Smith, Sheila Plimer, Ann Hornblower, Dennis Poyner, Freddie Evans, Nuala & George Partridge, Hilary Fernandes, Eoghain Devine, Jean Watson, Marian Mathews, Marie Wilson, Ian Phipps, Oscar Wordsworth, Nichola Woodhall, Paul Corbett, Carmel Fekete, Lynn Stanley, Janet Chambers, Jo Hawker, Alison Welton, Louise Morgan, Margaret Davis, Joe Bannister, Margaret Healy, Juliet Woodhall, Luke Smith, Catherine Shepherd, David Goodwin, Antonio Bigongiari, Olivia ^(Dotty) Cutler, Keith Allford, Anna Morgan ^{née Meehan}, Holly Brady, Jo Cooke, Anne Humphreys, Theresa Chandler, Fr. Paul Chamberlain, Cath Breen, Max Lewis, David & Sheila Piggott, Clare Cooksey & Áine McDonagh.

Please remember also in your prayers those who carry the burden of their illnesses privately and those who care for them.

Second Collections

The next retiring collection will be the weekend of **6th/7th December** for the **Poor Parishes Fund**. There will be an SVP collection on the weekend of **13th/14th December 2025**.

Remember that you are now able to donate using the Dona card machine in the porch.

Safeguarding Notice

The Parish operates in accordance with Statutory Safeguarding Guidance and the National and Archdiocese policies & procedures at all times. Our Parish Safeguarding Representative is Mr. Gerry Wintrip. Gerry can be contacted at: sg.smota.aldridge@rcaob.org.uk or the Diocesan Safeguarding team can be contacted at safeguarding@rcaob.org.uk or on 0121 230 6240 if you have any concerns.

Sunday Life Fundraiser



On Sunday 7th December we will be having our fundraiser for **Walsall Life** in the Meeting Room after Mass. **Please support us with bottles, cakes, biscuits, chocolates sweets and gifts for the Tombola. NEXT WEEK**

A Big Thank you for your support

SMA Choir

If you enjoy singing the hymns at Mass on Sunday morning, **have you thought about joining the Choir?** If you want more information please come upstairs to the Choir loft for a chat before or after Sunday's 9.30 am Mass, **(when the Choir is singing (this Weekend))**

Maureen D



Could you be a Lourdes Healthcare Volunteer?

Are you a **doctor, nurse or carer?** Would you consider donating your time and expertise on next years Lourdes Pilgrimage? Every year sick pilgrims are able to make the journey to Lourdes thanks to the support of a dedicated Healthcare Team. Without their expertise many pilgrims would not be able to go. If you're a Healthcare professional and would like to try something new, please consider joining us. You will make a real difference. For more information, and to access the Volunteer Pilgrim Pack and an application form, please visit:-

<https://www.birminghamdiocese.org.uk/lourdes-pilgrimage>

Piety Stall

Our **Christmas stock is here** and we can order any specific items you would like e.g. **Nativity sets, Christmas books and bibles for children** etc. Please come and look at our catalogue with us **after the 9.30 Mass on Sundays.**

RCIA Growing the Faith

Our weekly **R.C.I.A** course continues from 7:00 to 8:30pm this **Tuesday 2nd December. All are welcome**, those already Catholics wanting to know more about the faith and those who want to become Catholics. This week's session is entitled **Scripture & Tradition.**

Induction Invitation

Fr. Ryan's Induction is on **Friday 5th December** at **6.30pm**, at St. Francis of Assisi, Kenilworth. **A coach has been arranged** for all those who have signed the sheet in the Church porch. At the time of writing, **we have a limited number of seats still available.** The coach will leave our Church at **4.15pm**, with anticipated return at **9.30pm**. The cost per head is **£15**. Would all those intending to travel please remit monies (cash only) to John O'Neill ASAP. Please note only tea and coffee will be served following Mass.

Our Christmas Fayre

Many thanks for the help and assistance by everyone involved in making the Fayre a success. The sum of **£987.21** was raised for church funds.

The Thomas Project

Once again we are supporting the Thomas Project with Christmas gifts. They have asked if we can give new gifts for either children or adults this year. **Please do not wrap them. The gifts are required by the 14th December. Thank you.**

Craft and Natter

Just a reminder, there will be NO craft and natter on the 2nd December, but will return as usual on the 9th & 16th December.

Thank you to all who bought, sold, made or helped in any way towards our stall at the **Christmas Fayre**. We took **£32** on the raffle of the ceramic house, thanks to Mary and Don, **£201.50** on the stall, so we are able to give Father Ramesh **£233.50** (with a donation of **£16.50**. To round the donation up) if you feel you would like to know more about what we do, or just fancy a visit and a coffee and a natter (just. £1 per visit). Come along to see us all, we meet on Tuesdays during term time from 11am till 3pm, all are welcome for more information call me, Christine on 07900604902

St Francis of Assisi Catholic College

Our College would like to invite you to their Carol Service here at St Mary of the Angels on **Monday 8th December** at **7 o'clock** for an evening of **Carols and Readings** telling the **Christmas Story**. All are welcome.

Sacrament of the Sick

Please remember to inform **Fr. Ramesh directly** in case of sickness, especially if it requires hospital treatment or a prolonged absence from Mass. If you cannot inform the clergy yourself it is then your family who should take on this responsibility.



Baptism Enquiries

If you would like to have your child Baptised here at St. Mary of the Angels, please visit the 'Baptismal Enquiry' page of the parish website using the following link:

<https://www.catholicaldridge.co.uk/baptismal-enquiries.html> - Here you can complete a

'**Baptism Enquiry Form**'. The next available date for Baptism Preparation is:

7:00pm Tuesday 2nd December 2025

7:00pm Tuesday 10th March 2026

7:00pm Tuesday 9th June 2026

PARISH DUTIES THIS WEEKEND: 29TH – 30TH NOVEMBER 2025

<u>6:00PM VIGIL MASS</u>	WELCOMERS:	Shelagh & Jonathan
	READERS:	Gerry & Cathy
	^{EO}Euch. Ministers	Chris H & John T
<u>9:30AM SUNG MASS</u>	WELCOMERS:	Rossella & Helen C
	MUSIC:	Choir
	READERS:	Louis & Martin
	^{EO}Euch. Ministers	Janet ^{for Katharine} & Will B ^{Musicians} Catherine C

Duties During the Week: 1ST – 6TH DECEMBER

CLEANERS:	Team C.
FLOWERS:	No Flowers Until Christmas - when It's All Arrangers!

PARISH DUTIES NEXT WEEKEND: 6TH – 7TH DECEMBER 2025

<u>6:00PM VIGIL MASS</u>	WELCOMERS:	Ann & John T
	READERS:	Pat & Hugh
	^{EO}Euch. Ministers	Anne C & Bernadette D
<u>9:30AM SUNG MASS.</u>	WARDENS:	Peter H
	WELCOMERS:	Helen A & Elaine A
	MUSIC:	Folk Group
	READERS:	Sianna & Catherine
	^{EO}Euch. Ministers	Katie C-C & Sue W ^{Musicians} Phil P
	WARDENS:	Pat & Sally S
COFFEE:	Beryl & Tony M, Anna M	

Reflection: This Sunday we begin our yearly pilgrimage through the events of Salvation History starting with the preparation for the birthday celebration of Jesus and ending with the reflection the glorious "second coming" of Jesus as our Judge at the end of the world. We are entering the Advent season. Advent means coming. We are invited to meditate on Jesus' first coming in history as a baby in Bethlehem, his daily coming into our lives in mystery through the Sacraments, through the Bible, through the worshipping community, and finally, his *Second Coming* at the end of the world to renew the Just and to punish the wicked. We see the traditional sign of Advent in our Church: violet vestments and hangings of dried flowers or plain green plants, and the Advent wreath. These signs remind us that we must prepare for the rebirth of Jesus in our hearts and lives, enabling him to radiate his love, mercy, compassion, and forgiveness around us.

God bless you all.